



Street and Alley Improvement Subsidy Program

The City of Eugene offers a income subsidy program to financially assist local property owners who wish to improve their unimproved street or alley.

Generally, unimproved streets have gravel or asphalt mat surfaces. Improving streets and alleys helps to enhance neighborhood pride and aesthetics. The improvements help revitalize deteriorating neighborhoods and property values. Fully improved streets also provide safer traveling surfaces, reduce wear and tear on vehicles, improve drainage, decrease dust, and generally reduce the long-term maintenance costs for the City's road network.

Income Subsidy Program

The income subsidy program has been developed to help property owners pay for improving their street or alley. The City will "pick up" a portion of the assessable costs of a project for those property owners who qualify.

The subsidy applies only to properties adjacent to local streets and alleys that meet the following criteria:

Properties must be--

- Residentially zoned
- Owner occupied
- Developed as a single-family dwelling or duplex.

The project must be initiated by the City Council or by a petition of the majority of property owners, as outlined in the municipal code, and property owners must meet income eligibility limits. Funding is limited and will be distributed on a priority basis each year.

To estimate the amount of street assessment subsidy you may qualify for, review the chart below to find the income for your family size. If your income is on line "A", the City pays 5/6 of the street assessment. If your income is on line "B", the City pays 2/3 of the street assessment. If your income is on line "C", the City pays 1/3 of the street assessment.

Income Guidelines for Program Eligibility

	Number of Persons in Household								For Each Add'l Person
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
A) Very Low	\$19,145	\$21,880	\$24,615	\$27,350	\$30,085	\$32,820	\$35,555	\$38,290	\$2,735
B) Low	\$30,085	\$32,820	\$37,196	\$41,572	\$45,948	\$50,324	\$54,700	\$59,076	\$4,376
C) Moderate	\$41,025	\$43,760	\$49,230	\$54,700	\$60,170	\$65,640	\$71,110	\$76,580	\$5,470

Some additional eligibility criteria related to property ownership and other assets may apply. The income scale is based on Eugene-Springfield median family income for federal fiscal year 2005. Program income limitations will be adjusted annually to match federal guides, so check with Public Works Engineering at 682-5560 for current income criteria.

Funding Street Improvements

General fund property taxes are not used to finance street construction or maintenance. Eugene's local street network has been predominately financed through direct assessments to abutting property owners. Long-term maintenance is paid for by gas tax revenues.

Cost typically is the primary factor influencing a property owner's decision about whether or not to support a street improvement project. With the flexible street standards and the income subsidy program, most property owners now have options that may help them support improvement of their street or alley.

For both streets and alleys, assessments are based, in part, on actual construction costs. Generally, the costs of street and alley improvements are apportioned as described below:

Streets:

Costs are assessed to property owners according to the footage of their property that abuts the street – all lots abutting the road are assessed for at least 50 feet of frontage, even if they have less. The costs for sidewalks and for adjusting driveways to match the new street are additional.

Alleys:

Improvement costs are assessed to adjacent property owners according to three factors: zoning, footage abutting the improvement, and the square footage of the lot. Adjustments to match existing parking areas and driveways are additional costs and are based on the needs of each parcel.

Assessment bond financing allows property owners to repay the assessment in semiannual or monthly payments over ten years and is available to all property owners, **even if they qualify for a subsidy program**. The rate of interest is based on the current bond rate for the project. The assessment may be paid off any time during the finance period without penalty.

**FOR MORE
INFORMATION**

City of Eugene
Engineering
682-5560